



Hindu Awareness Week
Arise. Awake.

SVASTIKA卐

The Svastika is an ancient Hindu symbol, a symbol of well-being.

- It is a Hindu symbol that is a cross with four arms of equal length, with the ends of each arm bent at a right angle. Sometimes dots are added between each arm.
- *Svastika* comes from the word *Svasti* (*Sv* = well; *Asti* = is), meaning "All is well". This also means good luck, fortune and wellbeing.
- The meaning behind its relevance to Hinduism:
 - Facing right it represents the evolution of the universe (*Pravritti*)
 - Facing left it represents the involution of the universe (*Nivritti*)
 - It is also seen as pointing in all four directions (North, East, South & West), and thus signifies stability.
- The right hand *Swastika* is one of the 108 symbols of Sri Vishnu as well as a symbol of the *Surya Deva* (Sun God). The symbol, through its rotational axis, initiates the course of the Sun: appearing in the northern hemisphere to pass from east, then south to west.
- The left hand *Svastika* (called *Sauvastika*) usually represents Maha-Kali, night and magic. However, this form of the svastika is not "evil" and it is the form most commonly used in Buddhism.
- The auspicious symbol of the *Swastika* is commonly used in Hindu art, architecture and decoration.
- It can be seen on temples, houses, doorways, clothing and cars. It is usually a major part of the decorations for festivals and weddings.
- The Nazis adopted this symbol because it was understood as an *Aryan* symbol, indicating racial purity and superiority (The Nazis propagated the British historical theory in which the early *Aryans* of India were white invaders, which has subsequently proved to be completely false). In fact, to this day the Svastika can be seen commonly in British, Germanic and European architecture and fine art.